



ELDFAST - The chimney lining system that lives up to its name!

The Problem

The Eldfast lining system is a permanent solution for the lining leaking flues of mature social housing and is a cost effective way of extending the life of time-expired chimneys in tenanted local authority or housing association properties.

The Product

It is suitable for all fuels (including the Class 1 chimneys used for stoves and open fires) and can be applied to smaller flues, such as those with clay liners; gas flue blocks and up to 450mm square brick flues. Designed to minimise disturbance to the household during installation, Eldfast will cure chimney problems caused by the ravages of time, wind and weather, condensation, frost damage and chimney fires which often mean that chimney linings start leaking. Leakage can give rise to a number of problems, such as the smell of smoke indoors, inadequate up draught, the risk of highly-dangerous fire or carbon monoxide poisoning.

The Installation

Landy Vent engineers, or trained Eldfast lining contractors, arrive on site to line the flue. After a careful inspection of the chimney, the engineers remove the chimney pots if necessary and erect their winch, which will pull the Eldfast applicator balloon up through the chimney, working from a scaffolding or roof boards erected for the job. As its first job, the winch is used to pull a wire brush up through the flue to clear any soot and debris. The engineers carefully seal the fireplace opening to ensure that no soot enters the tenants property to cause damage or distress and locates a vacuum cleaner hose through the this cover to clear the worst of the soot. The process is typically clean as the debris is sealed within the fire opening.

With the flue clean enough for lining application, the team prepares the Eldfast outside the property having first calculated the number of bags required for the installation. Eldfast is initially power- mixed with a measured amount of water – after 10 minutes the ceramic material reacts with the water and with additional water guarantees that the Eldfast is at the correct consistency for application. Our picture shows just how 'sticky' the Eldfast mixture is as it sticks to the inverted trowel. This is the ideal attribute for a flue lining system.

ELDFAST is a ceramic material that does not contain lime or cement and can therefore withstand continuous exposure to extreme temperatures having been rigorously tested by BSRIA to conform to current building Regulation Standards & Requirements after the 1st April 2002 changes. Utilising some adaptations to the installer's tooling (for which Landy Vent have certain patents), even gas flue blocks can be cleaned and lined, making full use of the nominal coating thickness of the Eldfast system in order to retain those vital minimum flue measurements. Obviously this same benefit is applicable to several similar types of flue construction: e.g. concrete flue blocks, clay liners and brick flues which can be lined and sealed using Eldfast.

The applicator balloon is then inflated to around 0.5 bars to guarantee a good fit in the chimney after being attached to the winch cable. Eldfast is poured down the chimney and the applicator slowly raised to ensure an even lining of the walls of the flue. Near the top of the chimney a 'balled' pole is used to ensure that Eldfast coats every inch of the important flue top just below the pot.

Once the Eldfast has been applied, the chimney is carefully inspected to see that the lining covers all areas of the flue and that there are no gaps or voids. One of the major advantages of the system is in the ability to reline any areas that appear to need further relining almost straight after the original lining has been applied. Contrast this with 'repairs' to other wet concrete lining systems which must await the drying of the lining concrete.

The Result

Following the application of Eldfast chimney lining, your tenant's chimney is leak-proof, lined with a hard-wearing, completely fireproof lining that gives a better up-draught as a consequence. Your housing stock has been cost-effectively updated with no disruption to the tenant of the property surroundings.

Endorsement

Robert Bamford BSc [Hons.] ACIAT RMaPS, Shropshire Housing Group. "We have been using the Eldfast system to reline chimneys that have failed their smoke test under our solid fuel servicing programme. We have found it to be more durable than a stainless steel flexible liner and can be installed with the minimum of disruption to our tenants. The response time is excellent and time spent installing the liner is minimal."

Images (from top left)

- 1) Roof boards are placed on the roof and ...
- 2) ... a roof platform is put in place
- 3) The Land Vent Eldfast van outside the property
- 4) The client's fireplace is sealed to stop soot & debris entering the room before the chimney is swept
- 5) The chimney brush is attached and ...
- 6) ...pulled up the chimney ...
- 7) ... using the winch mounted on the chimney pot
- 8) Prior to mixing the Eldfast, the materials are laid out on the lawn
- 9) The Eldfast is mixed with water and reacts to form the ceramic lining material
- 10) The inflated bag which applies the Eldfast is attached at the bottom (client's fireplace)
- 11) After winching the bag appears at the chimney top
- 12) Unlike other methods a second coat can be applied by repeating the process
- 13) Showing how well Eldfast adheres to a trowel
- 14) Another example of Eldfast adherence
- 15) The roof operator winches up the bag to spread the Eldfast evenly up the flue
- 16) Trowelling Eldfast in to the flue so that the bag can apply in evenly.
- 17) Flue before lining. Note the decayed nature of the lime mortar
- 18) Flue lined with Eldfast



is exclusively available from Landy Vent UK Ltd, Foster House, 2 Redditch

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